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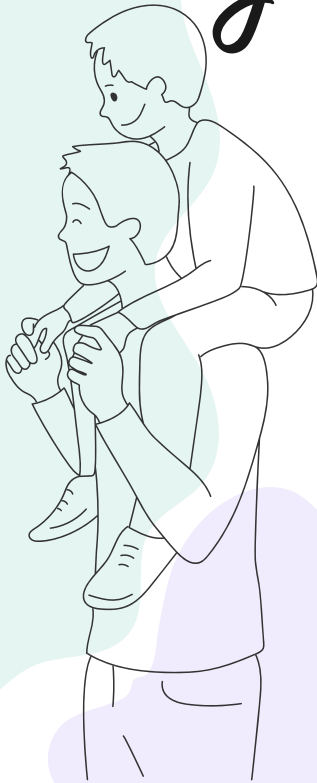
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HARBOUR SPIEL

June 2023
Issue 390



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EDITOR

Brian Lee

CIRCULATION (2,500)

Copies of the *Harbour Spiel* are mailed free to 1,260 homes between Egmont and Middlepoint and are available by paid subscription and free at locations throughout the Sunshine Coast.

Each issue of the *Harbour Spiel* (since Nov. 2006) is also available online as a PDF download at www.harbourspiel.com.

CONTRIBUTORS

This month we thank: Leonard Lee, Robert Livingston, Susan Marlatt and Shane McCune.

COVER

Black Bill Gilkes in the 78th annual May Day parade, May 20.

(Brian Lee photo)

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(Advertising bookings before June 15.)

editorial

Chakra doo-doo



Brian Lee

I've acquired an odd fascination with the language of new age healers.

Did you know that someone in Roberts Creek offers “healing across timelines and dimensions, timeline hopping and soul fractal retrieval?”

If that doesn't open your third eye, another healer will “alchemize emotional blocks located specifically in your body and womb space.”

It shouldn't surprise anyone that the Coast's epicentre of toxic positivity is in the Gumboot Nation.

The eccentrics down there support an impressive variety of alternative health services involving shamanism, astrology, crystals, ancestral programming, paganism, rebirthing and even past life regressions.

Anyone with a crumb of cynicism will accuse these charlatans of selling spiritual snake oil, but their online pitches are fun to read.

One healer draws upon “any number of modalities to support you such as ancestral work, guided inner child work or shadow work, connecting into your spirit team, energetic parasite cleanse and more.”

Huh?

Alternative health seems to be an alternative reality where “divine intuition” and “universal energy” have replaced science.

When was the last time your doctor told you that you suffered from an acute misalignment of your chakras?

In *The New Alchemists: The Rise of Deceptive Healthcare*, UBC professor Bernie Garrett shines a light on a broad range of deception in the health industry from Big Pharma to homeopathy and naturopathy to reiki and Gwyneth Paltrow.

Garrett offers little consolation to the alternative health crowd other

than, if they're lucky, they may have stumbled upon an expensive placebo.

Though science has yet to find a chakra, down in the Creek, an “emotional freedom techniques practitioner” will “intuitively read the body to find places of unresolved trauma and energetic blockages.”

There's a tea healer who promises to “facilitate the healing of ANY health issues including the ones which are not treatable by other healers.”

A “quantum intuitive healer” provides “detailed energy field/health analysis, testing the strength of all your organs, glands, tissues, and systems as well as your levels of nutrients, and whether pathogens, toxins, miasms/inherited diseases are contributing to your health concerns.”

Once diagnosed, she applies a “comprehensive healing plan with vibrational water formulas” to treat issues with “specific frequencies.”

Cancer? Gone.

If you need someone to activate dormant DNA while recoding your energetic grid, there's an “intuitive energy worker and reiki master” for that.

She charges \$150 an hour and because “energy transcends time and space,” her healing is also available via Zoom.

Why not “reclaim your essence as a living ancestral altar?”

It's easy—a lady drops you into the “wisdom of your womb space to clear, tend and birth the most aligned and evolved version of yourself.”

Her “co-creative approach integrates the womb, your mindset and goddess energetics.”

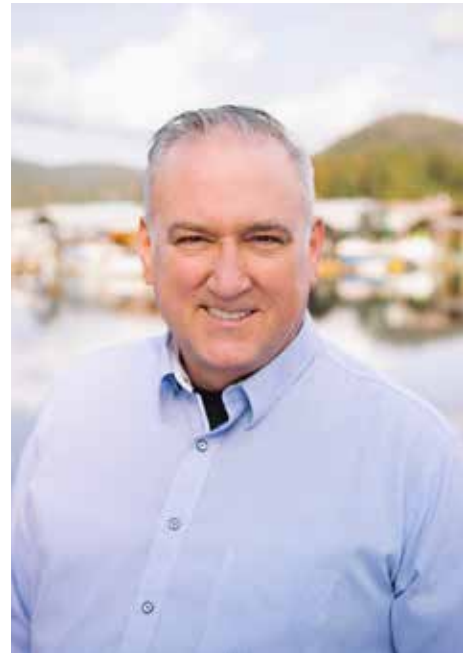
It only sounds illegal.

This proliferation of quack culture clearly indicates that people are sick and desperately seeking spiritual relief.

But mostly, it proves that our schools need more science.



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School bus overturned in Madeira Park May 24

The driver of a school bus was treated for minor injuries after a school bus carrying one student overturned near Johnstone Road May 24.

A Sunshine Coast RCMP spokesperson told the *Harbour Spiel* that they received a call at 8:37 a.m. regarding a single vehicle incident involving a school bus.

One child passenger was picked up by a guardian while the driver was transported to hospital with minor injuries.

“At this time, we are working closely with local authorities and emergency responders to ensure the safety and well-being of all those involved,” said Stephanie Murawsky, School District no. 46 communications officer, in a statement.



submitted

A school bus carrying one student overturned near the Grasshopper Pub on May 24.

Burning ban now in place throughout Sunshine Coast

Effective May 18, most open fires are now prohibited throughout the Coastal Fire Centre’s jurisdiction.

The ban includes category 2 and category 3 open fires throughout the Coastal Fire Centre’s jurisdiction.

A category 2 open fire is an open fire that:

- Burns material in a pile not exceeding two metres in height and three metres in width, or
- Burns stubble or grass over an area that does not exceed 0.2 hectares.

A category 3 open fire is an open

fire that burns:

- Material in one or more piles each exceeding two metres in height or three metres in width;
- Stubble or grass over an area exceeding 0.2 hectares.

Also prohibited are fireworks, sky lanterns, binary exploding targets, burn barrels and air curtain burners.

As of press time (May 26), this ban does not yet apply to campfires (half-metre high by a half-metre wide or smaller), or cooking stoves that use gas or briquettes.

To report a wildfire, unattended campfire, or open fire violation, call 1(800) 663-5555 or *5555 on a cell phone.

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HARBOUR SPIEL

trivia

1. Which of the following lakes feeds Kleindale's Anderson Creek?

- ☐ a. Lyons
- ☐ b. Harris
- ☐ c. Sakinaw
- ☐ d. McNeill

2. Who was recently elected chief of the shìshàh Nation?

- ☐ a. Corey August
- ☐ b. Lenora Joe
- ☐ c. Shiloh Joe
- ☐ d. Warren Paull

3. Name of BC's only native oyster.

- ☐ a. Pacific oyster
- ☐ b. Puget oyster
- ☐ c. Malaspina oyster
- ☐ d. Olympia oyster

4. What is the area across the Skookumchuck from Egmont usually called?

- ☐ a. Doriston
- ☐ b. West Egmont
- ☐ c. Old Egmont
- ☐ d. Malibu

5. What is another name for Francis Peninsula, especially high tide?

- ☐ a. Bear Island
- ☐ b. Salmon Island
- ☐ c. Loon Island
- ☐ d. Beaver Island

6. The formula to determine volume.

- ☐ a. length x width
- ☐ b. length x width x height
- ☐ c. $\pi \times r^2$
- ☐ d. $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$

Answers: p. 34

Four-plus: **Local**

Two-plus: **Newbie**

Less than two: **Townie**



Representatives from the Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Organization, Sunshine Coast Tourism and the Pender Harbour and District Chamber of Commerce took a 'business walk' in Madeira Park April 26 to learn about issues affecting small businesses. I-r: Yarrow Drtina, SCREDO small business programs manager, Andrea Wickham-Foxwell, SCT media consultant, Jenni Peters, PHCOC director, and Ron Badley, PHCOC president. Missing from photo is Annelise Sorg, PHCOC executive secretary.



submitted

'Why did the baker go to work? He kneaded the dough.'

Clint Roberts of Madeira Park's Baked on the Coast bakery cracks up Yarrow Drtina during the business walk on April 26. Aside from BOTC, the group visited Java Docks, Ground Waves, Tripple B's, Marina Pharmacy, EarthFair Book Store and Madeira Park IGA.



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Brian Lee

The Pender Harbour Community Club held a plant and garden sale on April 29 to raise funds for new lighting for the community hall. In the photo (r), organizer Lesley Durrant (l) and Marlene Cymbalist show off some of the product.

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Reduction in Physician Hours over the Summer

Dear patients

The Sunshine Coast has lost 20% of the emergency physician work force over the past 6 months, this has adversely impacted our ability to fully staff the emergency department. (Coverage has now been reduced to a single physician on shift resulting in longer wait times.)

Given the ongoing staffing crisis, particularly as we go into the summer, the remaining ER physicians have had to increase their shifts to prevent closure of the ER. This unfortunately will impact Family Practice in Pender Harbour.

Management and Physicians are meeting regularly with Vancouver Coastal Health to stabilize the work force and we will update patients as the situation changes.

Yours Sincerely
Colin Sutton



submitted

Members of the Madeira Park Elementary School parents' advisory committee and Sandy Magnussen, MPES principal, celebrate the installation of the new swing set on the school field. The PAC fundraised \$17,024 to put towards the project and received an additional \$14,185 from a capital project grant from the province. Back (l-r): Tracey McClelland, Troy Lacher, Rachael Eastman and Magnussen. Front (l-r): Raylene Sladey, Carole Logtenberg and Leva Chruszcz. The placement of the swing set, located close to the middle of what was once a soccer pitch, has already raised questions. A PAC representative told the *Harbour Spiel* that it was a school district decision and intended to avoid an underground stream and the future locations of a planned daycare and new P. H. Community School building.

news

Disc golf arrives in Pender

The Pender Harbour Golf Club recently announced it will begin hosting disc golf on the nine-hole course in Kleindale on a trial basis.

Disc golf, formerly known as frisbee golf, is a flying disc sport in which players throw a disc at a target.

The sport is played using rules similar to golf and instead of holes, players target an elevated basket.

George Brown, PHGC pro shop director, told the *Harbour Spiel* that the idea was planted last fall after the Sunshine Coast Disc Golf Association held a successful tournament here.

Disc golfers can only book tee times after 2 p.m. on week days.

"While their pace of play is similar to regular golfers, the course will be set up to have 18 holes within our nine," said Brown.

June 2023

"This means that some of our longer holes will have two or three disc golf holes crossing the fairway."

"So, if you're out there with disc golfers, please watch for people in unusual places."

Brown said a disc golf tournament is slated for July 9 if anyone wants to come out to learn about the sport.

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Wildfire season arrives early



*Leonard Lee
Area A director, SCRD*

Because summer-like conditions made our area ripe for rapidly spreading wildfires, the Coastal Fire Centre prohibited all category 2 and category 3 open fires, including burn barrels and burn cages of any size or description, fireworks, sky lanterns, binary exploding targets and air curtain burners.

Campfires meeting these requirements are allowed for now:

- Maximum 0.5 metres high by 0.5 metres wide;
- Surrounding fire guard required;
- Have ready access to eight

litres of water and/or a shovel;

- Never leave campfires unattended, and
- Completely extinguish fire and ensure ashes are cool before leaving.

With more severe environmental conditions, restrictions can expand to a complete open-fire ban and closures of lakes, parks, and backcountry areas.

It remains illegal to burn garbage, construction waste, and toxic material unless authorized by permit.

WATER METERS COMING

Area A has been waiting since 2015 for new infrastructure planning tools, leak-detection software, and a user-pay system.

With contracts for meter installation in Sechelt and the shíshálh Nation, we can see completion of the

improvements.

With roughly 10,560 water connections still requiring meters, the SCRD initiated a three-stage water metering program.

Phase 1 saw meter installations in North and South Pender Harbour water service areas in 2014 and 2015.

Phase 2 saw meter installations in remaining rural areas between 2016-2018.

Combined, phases 1 and 2 introduced 6,186 meters.

Phase 3 will see 4,028 new meter installations within the Sechelt and shíshálh municipal boundaries, with completion expected July, 2025.

Current situation:

- 347 residential and commercial accounts have water meters, with 194 needing new transmitters;



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leonard.lee@scrd.ca
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board Policy Review Committee

June 1 at 9:30 a.m.

Special Committee of the Whole

June 1 at 1:30 p.m.

Committee of the Whole

June 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Board

June 8 at 1:30 p.m.

Electoral Area Services Committee

June 15 at 9:30 a.m.

Committee of the Whole

June 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Board

June 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Agendas available at
www.scrd.ca/agendas

Home Composter Rebate Program

If you are a homeowner between Egmont or Port Mellon, you could be eligible for up to a \$100 rebate towards the purchase of a home composter.

www.scrd.ca/composting for
eligibility and more information.

New Traffic Lights in Pender Harbour

Traffic lights have been installed at the Pender Harbour transfer station.

The lights were installed as part of some site upgrades and maintenance to make the site safer for users.

- 779 services have meter boxes ready for meter installation, and
- 3,249 services require full infrastructure and meter installation.

FINDING MORE WATER

We have ample rain on a yearly basis, but storing it for year-round access at reasonable cost is a challenge.

Area A residents were confident we had it aced with four systems to access abundant surface water, but we weren't prepared for the exceptionally long and dry 2021-2022 summers.

The situation proved the reality of climate change, and underlined the need to plan and implement for a new reality, which we are now doing, but not without struggles.

Sechelt's Chapman water system is a prime example of best-laid plans going off the rails, and we should all be learning from it.

It's not like the problem hadn't been studied to death and a solution designed and funded.

In 2018, it was accepted that stage 2 water restrictions would be the maximum, with a plan to annually reduce demand by 520,000 cubic metres and increase supply by over 1,012,000 cubic metres, resulting in about 1.5 million cubic metres of new stored water.

Water meters, used mainly to reduce demand, were installed everywhere but Sechelt by 2017.

Although planned, in 2018, voters refused to fund the project.

In 2019, SCRD directors and staff were stunned when George Heyman, minister of environment and climate change strategy, killed a major project by withholding his approval to deepen the Chapman Dam to supply an additional 1,000,000 cubic metres.

Stopping both projects caused

four more years of planning, designing and securing additional funding to install siphons to deepen channels (supposedly temporarily) in Chapman and Edwards Lakes, resuming the metering project, delivering the new Church Road well field, and starting work on one in Langdale.

Impacts of stopping the projects were worsened by the unforeseen, extreme summers of 2021-2022.

Chapman water users endured frustrating restrictions pretty much every summer since 2015 and, in 2019, were faced with suffering beyond the estimated 2020 resolution date.

Our 2026 targets of annually reducing demand by 586,000 cubic metres and increasing supply by at least 1,724,000 cubic metres should yield an increase of 2,310,000 cubic metres since the 2018 assessment.

This means our projected target increased by 778,000 cubic metres a year, but Chapman and Edwards Lakes store 1,641,000 cubic metres of water, so storage must be increased by 140 per cent.

With the 2023 delivery of the Chapman well and interim solutions such as siphons, minimum environmental flow needs reductions, purchasing water from Gibsons and accessing wells early to delay the release of stored water, we expect that 2023 may see greatly delayed water restriction impositions.

By spending one time/lost money for Gibsons water and renting a filtration plant for Gray Creek, we could achieve a worst-case scenario of stage 3 in September and stage 4 in October.

By 2026, stage 3 and 4 water restrictions should be history, and Chapman water service users will soon have enough water, or at least as much as they want to pay for.

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Gruber: Counting the stains in Garden Bay

Editor,

As a resident of Garden Bay, it really bothers me and all of my neighbours to see the state of the ruins of the Garden Bay Pub.

It's been sitting there for two and a half years, untouched, derelict, dangerous to the public, to children, dangerous to the marine environment,

an eyesore for visitors and an embarrassment to us locals.

We have contacted various levels of government and haven't even earned a reply.

You are the only one who published an article about the decline of our area.

Examples are many — the Sundowner, a heritage building standing abandoned for many years, the burned-out pub scaring visitors away, not to talk about the roadside junkyard and repair shop as an introduction to our beautiful Garden Bay.

I've been a resident for 27 years and have owned my property since 1984.

This used to be a vibrant community with music in the pub, a restaurant at the Sundowner Inn, the Irvines Landing Pub operating.

Now, nobody seems to care.

What should be done to prompt some action?

I feel sad that our exceptionally blessed neighborhood is stained in such a way.

Les Gruber
Garden Bay



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seals



Note your seal of approval or disapproval.

By email only: editor@harbourspiel.com. Include full name and telephone number. (Editor will edit for length.)



Major Harbour Seals of Approval to **the wonderful staff and volunteers of Legion no. 112** for hosting another Bargain Barn Fashion Show and Luncheon on May 7.

Everyone in attendance had an amazing time and all profits will go to our P.H. Health Centre.

Karen Wells

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Margaret and Ken O'Coffey** for your generous donation to the PHSS PAC hot lunch program.

Anne Pino
PHSS PAC

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Brian Everett** for his generous donation to the Pender Harbour Piece Makers.

Jean Minch

Harbour Seals of Approval to **June Percival and Seniors Carpet Bowling and friends** for celebrating 50 years since I opened Miss Sunny's Hair Boutique. Happy 50 years to the Madeira Park Shopping Centre — good memories.

Sunny Charboneau

Harbour Seals of Approval to **Madeira Park IGA, and store manager Matt MacDonald**, for their role in making this year's April Tools Rotary barbecue a resounding success.

Partial proceeds are donated to the P.H. Living Heritage Society, the host of this annual fun-filled event.

Jane Blaiklock
Rotary Club of Pender Harbour



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'Squatter conundrum' or meadow ghetto?

Editor,

Well, much to my surprise, when I opened up the recent copy of *Harbour Spiel* there was almost a full page editorial about the so called squatters in Meadow Creek area.

My how times have changed, when I first sent a picture to the *Spiel* when the first trailer showed up, I quoted it saying, "It's not just boats that move to Pender to die a slow death," hence the trailer.

But the response I got from both the *Spiel* editor and the local SCRD representative was that they couldn't report or comment on it as it was a touchy subject.

What is so touchy about a band of derelict thieves (oops, have to say "allegedly" cause, just like the RCMP and media, you have protect the criminals first before the public) moving into your neighbourhood.

People have a right to be NIMBY, after all, would you want that environmental mess as your neighbour?

Who would want to rent property to this kind of mess and alleged thieves?

Did you know one of those so called squatters is one of the most prolific car thieves in all of BC?

One recent passing of the area I stopped and walked thru the highways right of way.

Why do all the vehicles have no visible VIN numbers?

Why wouldn't the police do something about that?

Oh right, it's in Pender, not Sechelt.

Usually no VIN number is a pretty good indication the vehicle has been stolen, and ready to go to the chop shop.

Stranger still is how there are always new vehicles showing up.

I know for a fact they are poaching trees from Crown land and maybe private land, oops, forgot to say "allegedly."

But I have seen them doing just that at 5 a.m. in the morning.

Why do you think one of their vehicles is down an embankment north of the substation on a road they (allegedly cut) to access trees?

I guess when the government is going to give you free housing, free income and free drugs, what's the motivation to actually be a helping part of society and just take the handout.

Please, don't give me the mental excuse either, that's just a lame answer for blaming somebody else for your own problems.

But really, is squatting on public land any different than local waterfront landowners cutting off public beach access right of ways by building on it and, true to fashion, the SCRD does nothing about it.

Boat ramp area along Francis Peninsula, beach water access along Sinclair Bay Road, just to name a few.

The only difference, I guess, between the squatters taking up residence on Garden Bay Road and the waterfront landowners is just the "M" word — not meth, just money.

Michael Davison
Garden Bay

Celebrating 60 years!

Glenn and Nonie McCuaig of Garden Bay, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 18.

They marked this special celebration with their two children, son-in-law, and their two grandchildren.



They are a true example of love, friendship, strength and enjoying life's view!



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April Tools Wooden



Garden Bay firehall's Fireflies suffered an early setback when someone put a hammer through their SUP's decking.



The children's craft tent and boatworks always brings out smiles.



Sean McAllister and Pender Rotary served up 168 burgers and 138 hotdogs with partial proceeds going to the event's host, the P. H. Living Heritage Society.



PHSS students getting mentally prepared prior to their race.



Andrea Clerx, Philippe Sokazo and Rufus enjoying the racing, and the sunshine.



The start of the PHSS students' race. Boat two, with Kalen Zayshley, Noah Sieben and Jack Soos, would take first.



Boat Challenge 2023

Brian Lee photos



The moment of truth — the launch of the first heat when competitors and spectators learn if the designs work.



The start of the first heat. Teams were required to carry two team members on their stand-up paddleboard.



Teams navigating open water to clear the outside buoy in the second heat.



Fireflies looking good in the final leading the Gunboat Bay Challengers into 'boom chain alley' and on to the finish.



Past champions the Gunboat Bay Challengers entering the final run to the finish to earn second place.



The winners of the ATWBC 2023 — the Garden Bay Fireflies, (l-r): Sawyer Cote, Ray Miron, Bruno Cote and Kerry Rand.

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MAY DAY 2023

Brian Lee photos





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MAY DAY 2023!

Phew. We survived.

This day would not happen without our community, including generous sponsorship from local businesses who provided both financial sponsorship and in-kind donations, or without the support of our partners and families.

While there isn't room to name all the wonderful volunteers, we'd like to acknowledge...

**Kelly, Victor, Ryley Campbell,
Russ, Logan, Oliver, Keith, Darrell & Rylie**

**Carter for your patience, time, and strength with set-up
and clean-up (and everything in between for the past 4 months).**

• **Darlene Fowlie for the flyover!** • **Dave Davies for running the shuttle bus
and the Pender Harbour Health Centre for the use of their van.** • **Don and How-
ard White for the use of their property for parking and float construction.** • **Our first
aid attendants, Christie, Davy, and Charleigh.** • **Marilyn Mcleod and the P. H. Blues Society.**
• **Don and Laurie Towner for heading up the silent auction table and selling shirts!** • **Our (un)
official Mayor Black Bill for answering all of our questions, and always showing up to help... with
only a small amount of profanity this year?! (I think our team is growing on you.)** • **Julie Roth for (once
again) putting on the fishing derby. The kids had a great time.** • **Zoë, Mackenzie, and Monica for devoting
your time and professional skills to capture our day on film!** • **Robin Miller, for, all of the things. One of our
go-to guys, and biggest supporters.** • **Matt and Alanna McDonald, for generously responding to our endless
requests.** • **Dee, for efficiently and professionally keeping our whole (adult) town hydrated.** • **Merideth Frost
and Scott for all your work on the run!** • **Alicia Anderson for decorating (and undecorating) for the dances** • **Bill
and Lynn Charlton for always putting on a safe and entertaining parade!**

And, especially...

**Katherine Ayers for keeping the show on the road, sending and answering 25,000 feisty urgent text messages while
somehow always managing to keep her cool** • **Tayler Metcalf... like any good midfielder, takes care of everyone...
and catches all of our mistakes.** • **Beau Sladey for her positivity and ability to bring all of us together; even when
we are spicy.** • **Cheryl Alsop & Dani Silvey, for being our Jill-of-all-trades, "Yes, I can do that" ladies and for staying
up late after the dance and locking up when the rest of us had crashed.** • **Debbie Martin, this community loves and
appreciates you for all of your hard work. It never stops and you never stop. No isn't in her vocabulary!** • **Rachel,
for being our voice-of-reason, and helping with all the PAC-tent-related things!** • **Anna, behind-the-scenes grant
writer, graphic designer, and overall nerd that we all need.** • **Dallis Daly, Crystal Mackie, and crew for mak-
ing a beautiful float for the royal court.** • **Sara Campbell for all the artistic touches found on the field.** •
Michelle Forsyth, our professional juggler, organizing all of our sponsors. • **Heather, always positive and
hardworking; for pulling together the odds and ends that are essential for making this day a success.** •
**Kristy, our MC and social media manager extraordinaire. We will all never forget that first reel that
you made...all of our jaws hit the floor.** • **Christy Carter, the powerhouse who deftly organized the
most vendors ever. Amazing job, and always with a smile on your face.** • **Madison, we are so
lucky to have you! You came in guns ablazing, and we needed it!** • **And Patti,
well, where would this town be without Patti Soos?**



We are always looking to add to our team. This year we were joined by several AMAZING newcomers who were key to this year's success. If you or your group would like to help out next year PLEASE reach out. This event has many moving parts and we require more community-minded individuals for it to run.

Until next year,
Your May Day committee.

Oh, wait — there is still Halloween fun night and Pender Harbour Winter Fest (same team, different gig)!

maydaymadeirapark@gmail.com

Aline Marie (Samson) Bunt

JUNE 13, 1936 — JANUARY 1, 2023



Aline Bunt died in Sechelt Hospital at age 86.

She was survived by her husband of 63 years, Raymond Bunt, daughter Rachel (John), sister Yolande (Peter), brother Richard (Monique) and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by parents Anna-Marie and Edouard Samson, and sisters Colette and Marie (Gerard).

Bunt was born in the small village of Rivière-Bleue, Que.

At age 18, she joined the Canadian Armed Forces and chose the Royal Canadian Air Force.

After training she worked in aircraft maintenance and was stationed in Cold Lake, Alta.

There, she met her husband Ray Bunt and they married in 1959.

One year later her daughter Rachel was born.

After Cold Lake, the family moved to France as part of Canada's contribution to NATO.

Upon returning to Canada, in 1967, she changed duties and started a career in secretarial work, becoming an executive secretary to the base commander in Bagotville, Que.

When Ray was assigned to the Dept. of National Defence headquarters in Ottawa, Bunt became executive secretary to the commissioner of the

public service commission.

After 35 years of service, she and Ray retired to Garden Bay in 1991.

Soon after she started volunteering for the power squadron.

Bunt enjoyed gardening, watching sports, travelling and boating throughout the BC coast.

She took pleasure from holding frequent dinners at her residence for power squadron members and friends.

Bunt was generous and made annual donations to over 20 charities and medical research agencies.

Her largest contribution while living (and in her will) was for Doctors Without Borders.

Her ashes will be buried in the family plot in Rivière-Bleue,.

A celebration of life will be held at the Madeira Park Legion on Sunday, July 16 at 1 p.m.

Raymond Edward Bunt

JANUARY 29, 1937 — FEBRUARY 23, 2023



Ray Bunt died at home at age 86.

He is survived by his daughter Rachel (John), brother Walter (Shirley), brother Ralph (Gerlind), and several nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased by his parents Rose and Walter Bunt.

He was born in Fort William, Ont., but called Thunder Bay his hometown.

Bunt joined the Canadian Armed Forces and chose the RCAF as his

preferred branch of the military, with jet aircraft mechanics as his career.

His first assignment was in Cold Lake, Alta., where he met Aline.

The couple had Rachel in 1960.

Two years later they were transferred to an air force base in France.

These were the Cold War years and the stress of the frequent drills was relieved by taking vacations as far as North Africa.

In 1967, the Bunts returned to Canada to a base in Bagotville, Que.

This assignment was followed by a transfer to the National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa in 1980.

He reached the position of master warrant officer and became an aircraft mechanic instructor and, later, an air crash investigator.

He described this last assignment in the RCAF with mixed feelings,

unsure if the mishaps were somehow attributed to maintenance issues.

He left the RCAF in 1991 and retired with his wife to Garden Bay.

In his retirement, he continued to serve by volunteering with Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department, the Coast Guard auxiliary and the power squadron for over 25 years.

Bunt loved the outdoors and spent his leisure time hunting, fishing, metal fabricating and welding.

He particularly enjoyed taking family and friends aboard the *Chapulin*, the family's CHB trawler.

He was the life of the party with endless funny stories about his life.

His ashes will be scattered in Lake Superior (and alongside Aline's).

A celebration of life will be held at the Madeira Park Legion on Sunday, July 16 at 1 p.m.

Louise Prescesky

AUGUST 12, 1931 — APRIL 9, 2023



Louise Prescesky, née Dunsieith, was born in Vancouver.

She grew up in the wilds of Belcarra, before there was road access.

She told stories of her childhood when she and her siblings would wait for the church groups to come for daytrips and they would wander over pretending to belong to the group in order to get a picnic lunch.

She was an easy-going, carefree individual who fit in with any group.

This, and her compassionate way, led her into the field of nursing when she was finished high school.

In 1953, she was wooed by the love of her life, Ed, and was married in 1955.

They sailed the Pacific and enjoyed a life most dream of.

They lived in West Vancouver where they had three daughters who they shared their passion for travel, even living on a sailboat as a family for a year in 1972.

In 1981, they moved to Pender Harbour where they purchased a property from a family member and built their dream home.

They were supporters of the P. H. Health Centre and the Iris Griffith Centre, inspired by their compassion for each other and nature.

Ed had a passion for adventure while Louise had the gift of making everyone feel at home.

In addition to people, she loved nature and animals.

She taught the kids to name all the spiders in the house and to release critters rather than squishing them.

She affectionately trapped bumblebees in rhododendron flowers to show that they were not scary before releasing them.

If ever there was a puppy near,

she would have it on her lap.

At Shornecliffe in Sechelt, she was affectionately called “Lou Lou.”

She was involved in every activity and instantly made friends with the other residents and staff.

Prescesky died peacefully surrounded by family on Easter Sunday.

The morning saw a spring storm with blustering winds with pouring rain, however, when she left us, it was sunny and clear.

She was predeceased by her parents Jack and Harriet, her brother Billy and her husband Ed.

She will be greatly missed by her surviving daughters Pat (Kerry), Betty (Kevin) and Cathy (Chris), her grandchildren Miranda (Luke), Jenn, Mike, Blake, Tara (Matt) and great-grandchildren Katelin, Mason, Dominic, Maxwell and Bennet.

Her family thanks all of the staff at Shornecliffe who helped care for her in her last years and Reg and Kenan who brought music, joy and faith into the care home, which brought her so much happiness.

OBITUARIES: The *Harbour Spiel* publishes obituaries without charge as a longstanding effort to recognize and record the lives of those who lived in Pender Harbour and Egmont. Submissions must be timely, include the dates of birth and death and be submitted in a digital format. Submissions will be edited for length and to remove first-person and personal messages as required to maintain editorial consistency.



A huge *Thank You* to all our sponsors and helpers!

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- P. H. Community School
- Eastlink Community
- P. H. Living Heritage Society
- All our volunteers!

local organizations

PENDER HARBOUR GARDEN CLUB

The next P. H. Garden Club meeting will feature Jason Crutch who will be presenting “Garden Facts and Folklore” at the School of Music in Madeira Park on Monday, June 26 at 1 p.m. Annual membership is \$15, or you can pay a drop-in fee of \$5. Snacks and coffee/tea will be provided.

Crutch is the owner of Fraser Valley Rose Farm, located close to Mission. It is a nursery that specializes in unique, hard-to-find, and historical varieties of roses that are no longer readily available on the market.

Crutch attended the Kwantlen Polytechnic University greenhouse production program, and then joined Valleybrook Gardens as a grower of perennials, herbs, veggies and a wide variety of other crops.

PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION

The Women's Connection has enjoyed a highly successful 2022/2023 season highlighting a variety of interesting topics like beekeeping, community information, musical entertainment, local personalities and, not to forget, fabulous tea parties.

To celebrate the end of this wonderful season, the next gathering will be lunch at the Backeddy Pub in Egmont on Tuesday, June 6 at 12 noon.

Lunch will be à la carte with each person responsible for their own bill. The Backeddy has asked to have the number expected, therefore please RSVP to *bob.lynn.macdonald@gmail.com*.

photojournal



Ken Paisley

Ken Paisley snapped this shot of seagulls feasting on the mudflats in east Oyster Bay April 9.

June 2023



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NOTICE FROM THE PENDER HARBOUR HEALTH CENTRE

The Pender Harbour community has been very fortunate in having the excellent services of Dr. Colin Sutton and his partner Linda McNeil for the past two years.

Unfortunately, Dr. Sutton will be leaving our health centre in November of this year as he is retiring from his work as a family physician. Dr. Sutton has expressed his gratitude for the support shown to them by the Board and staff of the health centre, as well as the opportunity to work in the Pender Harbour community. During their time here we worked together to modernize the clinic with state of the art equipment.

Your Board and health centre are doing everything in our power to find a replacement physician. We would be very appreciative if the community can help us with this search.

If you have any personal connections to a physician who might be interested in working here we would like to speak with you, so please contact Susann Richter our COO at the health centre.

As you are all aware, the whole of Canada is facing a shortage of family physicians and the Sunshine Coast and British Columbia are no exception. We wish to thank Colin and Linda for their time spent here and the dedicated service they are providing to Pender Harbour and to the emergency department of the hospital.

SKOOKUMCHUCK VIEWING TIMES

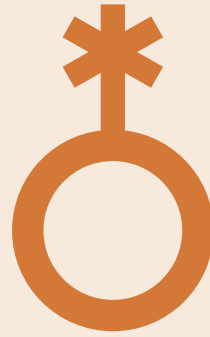
JUNE

DATE-TIME-SIZE (small, medium, large, **extra large**)

EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - Standing wave is best on large flood (tide flowing into Sechart Inlet).

1. 8:27 AM -XL, 4:28 PM +XL
2. 8:55 AM -XL, 5:20 PM +XL
3. 9:31 AM -XL, 6:11 PM +XL
4. 10:28 AM -XL, 7:00 PM +XL
5. 11:35 AM -XL, 7:49 PM +XL
6. 12:33 PM -XL, 8:36 PM +XL
7. 6:41 AM +M, 1:29 PM -XL
8. 7:37 AM +S, 2:27 PM -XL
9. 8:46 AM +S, 3:25 PM -XL
10. 10:24 AM +S, 4:24 PM -L
11. 11:59 AM +S, 5:26 PM -L
12. 1:08 PM +M, 6:37 PM -M
13. 8:14 AM -XL, 1:24 PM +L
14. 9:51 AM -XL, 3:31 PM +L
15. 10:39 AM -XL, 4:32 PM +XL
16. 11:23 AM -XL, 5:26 PM +XL
17. 12:03 PM -XL, 6:13 PM +XL
18. 12:36 PM -XL, 6:57 PM +XL
19. 12:26 PM -XL, 7:37 PM +XL
20. 12:41 PM -L, 8:10 PM +XL
21. 6:16 AM +S, 1:09 PM -L
22. 6:58 AM +S, 1:42 PM -L
23. 2:20 PM -L
24. 3:03 PM -L
25. 3:56 PM -M
26. 12:15 PM +S, 5:02 PM -M
27. 1:14 PM +M, 6:29 PM -S
28. 2:24 PM +L, 8:02 PM -S
29. 6:54 AM -XL, 3:29 PM +L
30. 7:29 AM -XL, 4:28 PM +XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.



GENDER

1/300

Of the nearly 30.5 million people in Canada aged 15 and older living in a private household in May 2021, 100,815 (0.33%) were transgender (59,460) or non-binary (41,355).

0.85%

Just under 1 in 100 young adults aged 20 to 24 in Canada were non-binary or transgender.

Nova Scotia

The province with the highest proportion of reported transgender and non-binary people aged 15 and older (0.48%) in the 2021 census.

0.44%

British Columbia had the third highest proportion of transgender and non-binary people aged 15 and older among provinces and territories.

30.4

The average age in the 2021 census of Canada's non-binary population.

39.4

The average age in the 2021 census of Canada's transgender population. (The Canadian population aged 15 and older had an average age of 48.0 years.)

3x-7x

The proportions of transgender and non-binary people were three to seven times higher for generation Z (born between 1997 and 2006, 0.79%) and millennials (born between 1981 and 1996, 0.51%) than for generation X (0.19%), baby boomers (0.15%) and the interwar and greatest generations (0.12%).

~ StatsCan/2021 census

JUNE WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (MERRY ISLAND)

Our average daily high June temperature is 18.7 C and low is 12.4 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 15.6 C. The highest June temperature recorded is 29.9 C (June 1, 1978); the lowest is 5.6 C (June 1, 1966).

PRECIPITATION (MERRY ISLAND)

June averages 10 days with rainfall and a 46.9 mm total. June has an average of 230.1 hours of bright sunshine. The highest daily rainfall recorded in June is 41.9 mm (June 10, 1972).

JUNE ASTROLOGY



GEMINI: MAY 21 – JUNE 21

Geminis are butterflies by nature, flitting from one attraction to the next. They're easily bored but have lively, stimulating minds and can be witty and charming.

Watch out this June. Venus and Mars in Leo are teaming up with Mercury and the Sun in Gemini. This gang will deliver transformational energy while colouring your aura with chaos. A welcome side effect of this phenomenon will be the charge to your stale love life. Your partner will think you're possessed — because you will be. Just go with it.



CANCER: JUNE 21 – JULY 22

Those born under the sign of the crab value security and enjoy the safety and comfort of familiar surroundings and activities.

This month, Saturn in Pisces and Biden in the White House means that it is time to manifest. If you're new to manifesting, not to worry — it comes naturally to Cancerians. Your powers of intuition and sensitivity mean that you can kick back and let the planet's love flow into and around you. Be prepared to manifest the s**t out of financial opportunities presenting themselves around June 15.

BC BESTSELLERS

For the week ending May 20, 2023

The BC bestseller list uses sales data from over 80 independent bookstores in BC representing sales of BC published books released within the calendar year.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. To Track a Traitor: A Lane Winslow Mystery by Iona Wishaw (TouchWood Editions) | 6. Weird Rules to Follow by Kim Spencer (Orca Book Publishers) |
| 2. Unbroken: My Fight for Survival, Hope, and Justice for Indigenous Women and Girls by Angela Sterritt (Greystone Books) | 7. The Morning Bell Brings the Broken Hearted by Jennifer Manuel (Douglas & McIntyre) |
| 3. Cold Case BC by Eve Lazarus (Arsenal Pulp Press) | 8. Frances Barkley: Eighteenth-century Seafarer by Cathy Converse (Heritage House Publishing) |
| 4. A Complex Coast: A Kayak Journey from Vancouver Island to Alaska by David Norwell (Heritage House Publishing) | 9. Tracking Giants: Big Trees, Tiny Triumphs, and Misadventures in the Forest by Amanda Lewis (Greystone Books) |
| 5. The Power of Trees: How Ancient Forests Can Save Us if We Let Them by Peter Wohlleben (Greystone Books) | 10. Snorkelling Adventures Around Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands by Sara Ellison (Harbour Publishing) |

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- June 1 ~ Kathy Brown, June Percival and Uriah Mees.
- June 2 ~ Ivan Fisher.
- June 3 ~ Ron Fearn and Jordan Krause.
- June 4 ~ Lilah Donnahee and Dale Klassen.
- June 5 ~ Joel Field and Autumn LaFrance.
- June 6 ~ June Malaka.
- June 7 ~ Irene Pratchett, Russell Silvey, Ron Cymbalist, Marlene Cymbalist and Marie Hill.
- June 9 ~ Dennis Gaudet.
- June 10 ~ Bram Christiaan, Darren Vickers, Rob Hoehn and Weylyn Silvey
- June 11 ~ Kathy MacGreggor.
- June 12 ~ Ken Walters, Kim Cabral, John Griffith and Tai Logtenberg.
- June 13 ~ Brooklyn Krause, Doug Silvey, Pat McQueen and Amber McKeeman.
- June 14 ~ Mack Duncan and Rick Shymanski.
- June 15 ~ Marie Malcolm, Kay Robinson, Hannah Stewart and John Schroeder.
- June 16 ~ Sonny Reid, Rod Cummings, Paula Vickers, Britney Carswell and Derek Youngs.
- June 17 ~ Peggy Blumenthal and Harry Luck.
- June 19 ~ Darlene Yablonski, Luke Petraschuk and Leah Bernier.
- June 20 ~ Tamara Mackie and Stan Crowell.
- June 21 ~ Willa Schroeder and Terri Honeybourne.
- June 22 ~ Pat Walsh.
- June 23 ~ Dave McKeeman and Julia Massullo.
- June 24 ~ Alex Phillips and Mike Gaudet.
- June 25 ~ Aisha Chalk.
- June 26 ~ Gerry Krantz, Tammy Holt and Brieanne Gilkes.
- June 27 ~ Barrie Wilbee, Aleezah Charboneau, Kelsey Clay, Jack Donnahee and Neville Lincoln.
- June 29 ~ Lorna Edwardson, Ambrose Mees and Mark Mills.
- June 30 ~ Hanna Stoutenburg.



Please check the website for current hours and information: www.penderharbourhealth.com

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- Home/Palliative care • Dressings • Holter Monitors

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Darlene Fowlie – Hygienist

Monika Miller – Hygienist

Rosa Seda – Hygienist

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- Restorative Dental Care Consulting
- Implants • Surgical Extractions

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE – (604) 883-2764

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- Child and Adult Immunizations

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER – (604) 984-5070

Annaliese Hasler, NP

- Women and Youth Health Services

FOOT CARE NURSE – (604) 740-2890

Sharon Gilchrist-Reed LPN

- Foot care nursing
- Reflexology/Kinesiology

COUNSELLING SERVICES

(604) 885-6101 ext. 4422

PHYSICIANS – (604) 883-2764

Dr. Colin Sutton

- By appointment only

CHIROPRACTORS – (604) 886-3622

Dr. Ali Manavi, Coastline Health and Performance Chiropractors

- Wednesdays, call (604) 886-3622 or visit coastlinehealth.janeapp.com to book appointment

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BETTER AT HOME PROGRAM (UNITED WAY)

(604) 212-2232

Haida Bolton – Program Coordinator

Helping Seniors Remain Independent

- Email: betterathome@penderharbourhealth.com



THE SUNSHINE COAST HOSPICE SOCIETY: Compassionate, respectful end-of-life and bereavement care. Whether you want to talk with one person or to join a bereavement group, trained volunteers are available. Call (604) 883-2764.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. – everyone welcome.

TEENS' DROP IN CLINIC: Offered every Tuesday between 3 and 5 p.m.

LOAN CUPBOARD: Crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, raised toilet seats etc.

DIABETES & DIETICIAN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: Weekly on Thursdays ~ call to book an appointment

CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: Weekly on Wednesdays ~ call to book an appointment.

ADULT DAY PROGRAM: Dementia Care-Giver Support Group. Call (604) 883-2764.

First-class health care for the people of the Pender Harbour area.

Safety and senior drivers

*Compiled by Pender Harbour Health
Centre nursing staff*

Age alone does not make an older adult an unsafe driver.

Many older adults continue to be safe drivers and make decisions to avoid driving situations in which they feel less confident.

However, as we age, changes in abilities make some activities more difficult.

Here are examples of concerns you or your family member may have experienced:

Vision — you may notice glare and find it difficult to see in the dark or things in your peripheral vision.

Physical — you may feel weak, stiff, experience pain or move slowly

Cognition — you may have difficulty remembering things, making decisions or coping with distractions

Reaction time — you may find it difficult to react quickly.

WARNING SIGNS OF UNSAFE DRIVING

Have you been involved in near or minor collisions?

Do you seem distracted by the radio or passengers talking to you while driving the car?

Do other drivers honk at you?

Do you lack confidence when driving?

Do you miss stop signs or traffic lights?

Do you get lost, forget where you parked your car or where you are going?

Do you have problems changing lanes or merging?

Do your family or friends refuse to drive with you?

If these warning signs reflect your situation, maybe it is time to



make some changes and have your driving evaluated.

The following are some safe driving strategies:

- Choose a vehicle that is easier to drive, such as one that is automatic and has good visibility;
- Make sure the vehicle is in good working condition;
- Make sure the seat, steering wheel and mirror are properly adjusted, and
- Limit driving at night, in bad weather, or on limited access highways;
- Maintain a safe following dis-

tance;

- Take regular breaks when driving long distances;
- Have regular medical checkups including a regular eye exam and ask your medical doctor about your ability to drive, and
- If you are diabetic, some effects of the disease, such as blood sugar levels, may affect your ability to drive.

Varying blood sugars may make you feel sleepy, dizzy, confused and less alert.

Poorly controlled blood sugars may cause you to experience blurred vision or a sudden loss of vision.



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Celebrate Seniors week: June 5-11!

Come out on June 8!

Featuring a special concert
celebrating seniors and
Rock and Roll hits from the
'50s, '60s and '70s with
musician Patricia Burnett!



Seniors Activities for June:

Seniors
Helping
Seniors

PENDER HARBOUR SENIORS INITIATIVE

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HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by:
P. H. Health Centre &
P. H. Health Auxiliary

FOR INFORMATION
OR TRANSPORTATION,

CALL MARLENE:
(604) 883-9900

WOODFIRE PIZZA: Tuesday, June 13, 11am

At Kathy & Wayne Bergman's. Call Marlene at (604) 883-9900 to reserve a seat. Cost is \$12 per person.

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS: Thursday drop-in, 10:30am – 1 pm

In the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Lunch will be served at 12pm. The cost will be \$10 per person.

June 1 – The end of the school year for some. Let's share a story or a memory bring a school picture or a school annual.

June 8 – "Celebrate Seniors Week" – Rock 'n Roll with Patricia Burnett, 11-12pm
Door Prizes, activities and free lunch served at 12 noon.

June 15 – "Nature Connection for Better Health" with Haida Bolton.

June 22 – Putting at the P. H. Golf Club (11am) followed by lunch at the Clubhouse Restaurant (noon). Cost is whatever you order for lunch (no charge for putting). Please sign up so reservations can be made ahead of time.

June 29 – Wear something red and white in honor of Canada Day. Join us for a game of Canadian trivia and prizes.

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, June 7, 14, 21, 28

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall, 1-3 pm. Cost \$3.

CHAIR YOGA: Mondays & Fridays, June 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26 & 30

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall 11am – 12pm. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves. Welcome back Carole Logtenberg! Cost: \$3.

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday JUNE 20, 4:30-5:30PM @ HARBOUR LEARNING CENTRE

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of Last AGM June 8, 2022
3. 2022 Annual Report
4. 2022 Financial Statement
5. Appointment of Accountant
6. Election of PHCSS Board of Directors and Appointment of Executives

Harbour Learning Centre ~ Tues/Weds/Thurs/Fri 9am-3pm

✉ phcs@dccnet.com ☎ 604.883.2826

www.pendercommunity.ca



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

20m, 4-lane pool
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weight room

On lower level of
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604 885-6801

www.scrd.ca/myrecreation

PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

www.scrd.ca/pender-harbour-aquatic-fitness-centre

This facility has a pool and weight room (gym).

Use your MYPASS or pay drop-in admission for the following drop-in activities:

EFFECTIVE UNTIL JUNE 30.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:30 – 9:00 am Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	7:30 am – 2:00 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	7:30 – 9:00 am Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	7:30 am – 2:00 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	7:30 – 10:00 am Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM
9:00 – 9:50 am Aquafit	10:30 – 11:30 am Land Meets Water Aquafit	9:00 – 9:50 am Aquafit	10:30 – 11:30 am Land Meets Water Aquafit	10:00 – 10:50 am Gentle Waves Aquafit
10:00 am – 2:00 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM		10:00 am – 2:00 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM		10:45 am – 1:00 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM
4:00 – 8:20 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	5:00 – 8:20 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	5:00 – 8:20 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	4:00 – 8:20 pm Use the POOL, HOT TUB, SAUNA, & GYM	

DROP-IN FITNESS

- Mix It Up on Thurs. at 8:45 am

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER:

- Latin Fitness Dance, Tuesdays, 7:15 pm
- Aquatic Rejuvenation, Wednesdays, 10 am

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER!

- Online www.scrd.ca/myrecreation
- By phone: 604-885-6801
- In person

We look forward to seeing you!

We invite you to subscribe to our
Recreation Newsletter at
www.scrd.ca/Newsletter-Signup

Follow us on facebook:
www.facebook.com/Pender-Harbour-Aquatic-and-Fitness-Centre-206667126014598

The naked caretakers of Sabine Channel

Susan Marlatt

In the 1970s, Keray Farrell and I took on a caretaking job on Texada Island, just south of Partington Point across from Jedediah Island.

Sabine Channel was a bustling neighbourhood in those days.

It was reasonably populated with a variety of folks from all over and many of us managed properties for the wealthies who still had to work to afford their summer holiday in a place we enjoyed all year-long.

To earn a living, we did whatever jobs fell in our paths.

Finding employment required that you owned a boat and could manage winter and summer living remotely.

As the locations were usually boat access only, without neighbours within walking distance, it could be a challenge to keep the place functioning for the owners when they wanted to visit.

It paid \$300 a month, a princely sum in those days.

Keray and I arrived with four school-aged children, our own boat, a



Susan Marlatt

Texada Island circa 1977. From l-r: Lisa Farrell, Sharie Farrell and David Farrell, Susan Marlatt (author), Keray and Kari-Ann Farrell. The boat anchored in the bay is the Alan Farrell-built *Native Girl* with one of his dories on the beach.

happy mouser cat, and all of the experience that we could muster.

In Keray's case, this was considerable as he had grown up in and around Pender Harbour where he learned the skills required for this sort of undertaking.

I was a Vietnam draft resister who met the Farrells on Lasqueti Island.

I was well-educated in universities for jobs not needed on the Coast, and most unskilled by local standards.

But I learned fast.

And my education did come in handy when I was required to supervise correspondence school for my four children who were without a school.

Since only two years of university was required at that time, in any discipline, I could supervise a classroom of four as a paid teacher.

My seemingly useless training did pay off.

A few years before we took over the place on Texada, Lindal Cedar Homes had dispatched a barge loaded

with the house to be constructed at the site.

Hearty fellows arrived to build the home but, as the story goes, Lindal forgot to collect them again.

They must have been running out of supplies, relying probably on the Jones boys, Bruce and Gordon, to help them keep it together.

One of these builders finally walked north to the populated end of Texada via decommissioned logging roads and managed to get the word out that they needed pickup.

Remarkably, my son Yolan explored the area by boat recently and found the Lindal home has held up wonderfully with very little maintenance over these decades, facing straight into the southeast wind.

We built our own little house at the top of the former log dump.

It had a terrific view and there was a cleared area behind it where trucks had turned around and there were lots of old roads for walking.

We used a friend's little tugboat, the *Wee Geordie*, and a block at the



Susan Marlatt

The Texada kids (l-r): Lisa Farrell, Kari-Ann Farrell, David Farrell and Yolan Marlatt.

top of the dump to haul up skids of plywood and dimensional lumber.

Friends came to help and in a few weeks we had a basic house to live in.

In the meantime, we camped in homemade tents and cooked on the beach over campfires making wonderful memories.

That little home served us and the caretaker after us for many years, but recently burned down.

On Texada, clothes were optional a great deal of the time.

It seemed natural and only partly because doing laundry was such a difficult chore.

We had an old wringer washer powered by a one-cylinder kick start Iron Horse engine — that was not easy to start.

One of the advantages of the gas engine running the machine was that it could be forced to operate really vigorously, wild sloshing followed by jeans zooming out of the wringer into rinse water below in a galvanized tub.

Great stuff for mom and children on wash day.

Then the clothes were hung on a length of halibut longline that ran from the top of our log dump to a fir tree a great distance away.

It was dandy material and we had miles of it that came with our former fish boat, *Sarita Bay*.

On warm summer days, the whole group of us would wander around with very little on.

The beach out front was lovely with a stream that came down from Mount Shepherd alongside the beach to rinse off in.

Nearby trees provided shade and the beach itself was composed of billions of perfectly round pebbles.

Snuggling into these warm

pebbles after a cool swim is one of my favourite memories of this lifetime.

We were paid to look after the 40-acre property by a family from Ontario — Herb and Dorothy Patterson and their children, David and Caroline.

They always arrived in the summer for a lengthy stay when we were required to vacate.

We took advantage of this time off to roam the Coast in our own boat and once Herb brought a grand yacht that he allowed us to use for a trip to Princess Louisa Inlet with friends.

Herb would sometimes come on his own to decompress, letting us know by mail approximately when the visit might happen.

We had a radio phone, single sideband and citizens band for regular communication and mail was picked up on Lasqueti Island.

But contact was sketchy at best.

On one particular day, Allen and Sharie Farrell, my in-laws at the time, were visiting.

Their *Native Girl*, a gorgeous sailboat they built in Green Bay with hand tools and the most basic of purchased items, was anchored out.

Picture this scene.

Our huge pebble beach faced south with bare bums in and out of the water everywhere, all bathed in sunshine.

Such bliss, until the sound.

Suddenly, a floatplane roared around the bottom end of Texada.

It was *Blossom*, everyone's favourite Beaver, piloted by Blackie, everyone's favourite pilot, and he was delivering Herb.

It was time to run.

We all tore out of the water, buck naked, and ran as fast as we could up the hill to our house.

Our clothes were still all over the beach, which wasn't a problem for those of us who lived there because we had more in our home, but poor Allen (Sharie had stayed on *Native Girl*) had nothing to wear.

My boys were still too small to have anything that might have fit him so he was forced to squeeze into Keray's pants and shirt, also too small.

He looked quite silly, this fabulous boat builder, dressed as a clown.

Allen could be a very gracious and self-effacing man and took it in stride.

Meanwhile, Blackie nosed his plane onto the beach to unload Herb.

We meekly made our way back down the hill to welcome him.

He and Blackie were still in fits of giggles over the sight of all of us running up the hill with nothing on.

They had tears streaming out of their eyes and Herb said it was the best possible way for him to arrive at his beloved property.

Now more than 45 years on, Herb and Dorothy are both gone, as are Allen and Sharie and even Keray and his daughter, Kari-Ann.

Blackie too, and *Blossom* is sold.

But that beach south of Partington Point still shines in the sun and I hope there are still naked swimmers on it to honour their memory.



Susan Marlatt

Preferred swimming attire on southwest Texada Island in the 1970s.

community calendar

Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month.

JUNE

- Thurs. June 1.....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (shared stories) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Fri. June 2.....18th Annual Pender Harbour Blues Festival begins (3 days) - various locations
- Sat. June 3.....Earthfair store book reading w/ Ted Chamberlin - Earthfair Tranquility Garden, 11 a.m.
- Sat. June 3.....Egmont Day - downtown Egmont, parade at 11 a.m.
- Tues. June 6.....P. H. Women's Connection luncheon - Backeddy Pub, 12 noon
- Thurs. June 8.....SCRD committee of the whole meeting - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
- Thurs. June 8.....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (Celebrate Seniors) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Thurs. June 8.....SCRD regular board meeting - SCRD boardroom, 1:30 p.m.
- Mon. June 12.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Tues. June 13.....P. H. Seniors Initiative trip - woodfire pizza at the Bergmans, 11 a.m.
- Thurs. June 15.....SCRD electoral services committee meeting - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
- Thurs. June 15.....Harbourside Friendships seniors' drop-in (nature) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Tues. June 20.....P. H. Community School Society AGM - Harbour Learnign Centre, 4:30 p.m.
- Thurs. June 22.....Harbourside Friendships seniors' drop-in (golf putting) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Thurs. June 29.....Harbourside Friendships seniors' drop-in (Canada Day) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Thurs. June 22.....SCRD committee of the whole meeting - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
- Thurs. June 22.....SCRD regular board meeting - SCRD boardroom, 1:30 p.m.
- Mon. June 26.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Mon. June 26.....P. H. Garden Club - P. H. School of Music, 1 p.m.

Harbour Spiel Trivia Answers: 1. a 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. b



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we employed when we came up with them."*

~ Albert Einstein

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Focaccia

with Balsamic & Olive Oil
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With Whipped Butter

First Course

Smoked Sablefish Chowder

Garlic Crostini & Lobster Oil
or Soup De Jour

Ask your server about today's selection

Second Course

Wild Salmon Gravlax

Mascarpone & Avocado Mousse, Strawberry & Cucumber Salsa
with Lemon oil

Pacific Octopus & Squid Ink Risotto

Seared Scallop, Chorizo & Micro Greens

Roquefort & Poached Pear Salad

Mescaline Greens, Pickled Grapes in Hazelnut Vinaigrette with
Pear Fluid Gel & Pear Chips

Third Course

Pan Seared Halibut

Mango & Papaya Salsa with
Creamy Lemon Grass Risotto & Seasonal Vegetables

Egmont Bouillabaisse

Spot Prawns, Halibut, Mussels & Daily Catch with Focaccia Crostini

Certified AAA Angus Beef Tenderloin

Roasted Garlic Pomme Puree, Peppercorn Mushroom Demi-Glace
with Seasonal Vegetables

Pistachio Crusted Rack of Lamb

Goats Cheese & Potato Croquette,
Pomegranate Demi with Seasonal Vegetables

Fourth Course

Tiramisu / Cheesecake / Chocolate Lava Cake

Selection of Gelatos

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